

Update on Newtonville Village Center Re-Establishment

The re-establishment of a Village Center was a central purpose behind my service on the Mayor's Comprehensive Planning Advisory Committee. Long before the village was severed by an interstate highway, Newtonville had a somewhat simple but elegant village center featuring a fountain near the railway depot.

In an effort to promote village re-development that conforms with the principles of 'smart growth' and the purposes of our newly approved Comprehensive Plan, I and my fellow Ward 2 colleagues on the Board of Aldermen, have been working with the Planning Department and the city's Economic Development Commission to promote a re-development of Newtonville Square that enhances and extends the village center's use and vitality to the community.

I am pleased to report that Sasaki Associates of Watertown was kind enough to offer their summer associates to the city's Planning Department, at no expense, to assist in these efforts. These interns met with village stakeholders earlier this month, have studied the area and have generated conceptual plans for potential re-development. They will be presenting the results of their work at a follow-up meeting on Wednesday, June 18th at the Senior Center beginning at 5:30 PM. Everyone is most welcome to attend and participate.

Please feel free to contact me or Eve Tapper at the city's Planning Department at (617) 796-1120 if you would like further information.

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